

Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 STR-08 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 ABF-01

FS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 AID-20 IGA-02

OMB-01 RSR-01 /127 W

----- 091597

R 191610 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3966

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 1044

GUATEMALA ALSO FOR ROCAP

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD XK HO CS

SUBJ: NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH COSTA RICA

1. ACCORDING TO SUBSECRETARY OF ECONOMY VICENTE DIAZ, COSTA RICA DELEGATION WILL VISIT TEGUCIGALPA APRIL 2 TO CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT. NEGOTIATIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE RECENTLY IN SAN JOSE WERE MOSTLY CONCERNED WITH PROBLEM OF DUAL EXCHANGE RATE IN COSTA RICA AND THE EFFECT THIS SYSTEM WOULD HAVE ON BILATERAL TRADE UNDER PROPOSED AGREEMENT. DIAZ STATED THAT HONDURAS DELEGATION HAD LEFT TWO PROPOSALS WITH COSTA RICA FOR FURTHER STUDY: 1) FOR COSTA RICA TO OBTAIN A WAIVER FROM OTHER COMMON MARKET COUNTRIES TO ALLOW IT TO CARRY ON TRADE WITH HONDURAS AT OFFICIAL EXCHANGE RATE; 2) OR FOR COSTA RICA TO AGREE THAT HONDURAS COULD IMPOSE TARIFF SURCHARGE ON IMPORTS UNDER THE TRADE AGREEMENT TO COMPENSATE FOR HONDURAS PRODUCTS

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ENTERING COSTA RICA AT CACM RATE.

2. DIAZ FORESAW NO PROBLEM ON NEGOTIATION OF TRADE
LISTS BUT DID FORESEE SERIOUS PROBLEM WITH COSTA RICA ON
EXCHANGE PROBLEM.
DAVIS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SAN JOSE
SAN SALVADOR
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